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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/058,327	01/30/2002	Yoshifumi Yoshida	SUG-013-USA-P	6152
7590 04/09/2004				
TOWNSEND & BANTA 601 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W. Suite 900, South Bldg. Washington, DC 20004			EXAMINER	
			THEXTON, MATTHEW	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1714	

DATE MAILED: 04/09/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/058,327

Applicant(s)

YOSHIDA ET AL.

Examiner

Matthew A. Thexton

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 February 2004 and 25 March 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,7-9,15-18 and 30-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 15,30 and 31 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,7-9,32 and 33 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Citation of U.S. Code not included

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 1, 7-9, 32, and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamamoto et al. (US 5250615) and Ohmae et al. (5430081).

The Yamamoto reference discloses additives for thermoplastic resins and their functional utility (column 12, lines 38-58). In particular, it is suggested that aluminum hydroxide is a flame retardant and ammonium nitrate is an antistatic agent. It would

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have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to co-formulate these ingredients for their known utility and thus arrive at a formulation encompassed by Applicant's claims 1, 7-9, and 32.

The Ohmae reference discloses additives for thermoplastic resins and their functional utility. In particular, it is suggested that metal hydroxides such as aluminum hydroxide, magnesium hydroxide, calcium magnesium hydroxide, zirconium hydroxide, and the like may be used as a flame retardant component which contributes a carbonization accelerating effect (column 5, lines 47-68). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to co-formulate any of these ingredients for their known utility as substitutes for the aluminum hydroxide of the Yamamoto formulations and thus arrive at a formulation encompassed by Applicant's claim 33.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Claims 1, and 7-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cruze (US 5501977).

See Example 1, column 4, lines 33-36 and Example II, column 5, lines 5-12.

Claims 1, 7-9, and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hodgson et al. (US 3953192).

See the examples.

Claims 1, 7-9, and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Chappell et al. (GB 1119702).

See lines 25-31 and the claims.

Claims 1, 7-9, and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kawabata (JP 59230075A), as evidenced by the JPO abstract.

The reference discloses formulations comprising (B) aluminum hydroxide, and (D) ammonium nitrate.

A full translation of this document has been requested and will be forwarded as soon as it becomes available.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Matthew A. Thexton whose telephone number is 571-272-1125. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 9:30 to 6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vasudevan S Jagannathan can be reached on 571-272-1119. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Matthew A. Thexton
Primary Examiner
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